



**SASKATOON, SASKATCHEWAN**

## A photograph showing a herd of reindeer standing in a snowy field. The reindeer are light brown with some darker patches. In the background, there is a dense forest of tall, dark evergreen trees under a clear sky.

Photo courtesy of ArcticWatch

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# People and Caribou

## BQCMB Comings and Goings

The BQCMB was sad to say farewell to two long-standing board members during its November meeting in Winnipeg. **Albert Thorassie** of the Sayisi Dene First Nation (Tadoule Lake, MB) stepped down after more than three decades of service on the Board, and **George Tsannie**, from Hatchet Lake Denesüliné First Nation (Wollaston Lake, SK) is also moving on. "It was nice being on the Board. You learn lots from community members and biologists," said Thorassie. "This board has to keep on pushing so we can save these caribou for coming generations."

Just keep up the good work you guys. I'll be around!"

The Board also welcomed two new members to the fold—**Napolean Deneche-zhe** from Northlands Dene First Nation (Lac Brochet, MB) and **Ron Robillard** from Athabasca Dēnesuliné Ne Ne Land Corporation (Prince Albert, SK). **Ron Fatt** from Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation will also be appointed to the Board early in 2016. **Alicia Kelly** returned back to work for the South Slave Region of the NWT Department of Environment and Natural Resources as well as representing the GNWT on the BQCMB in November 2015, after two years of educational and maternity leave.

## Ministerial Update

The Honourable **Tom Nevakshonoff**, Manitoba Minister of Conservation and Water Stewardship, attended the BQCMB's November meeting in Winnipeg. It was a "getting to know you" meeting for the Minister as he is new to this portfolio. Chair **Earl Evans** welcomed the Minister by providing background on the Board, and stressing the importance of Manitoba honouring its funding commitment.

The minister acknowledged the funding issue and expressed interest in learning more about the herds. He was also urged to press for calving ground protection in the Nunavut Land Use Plan.

Recent elections both federally and territorially have resulted in numerous new Ministers in key caribou jurisdictions.

Federally, the Honourable **Carolyn Bennett** is the new Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs (formerly Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development).

Previously a longtime Nunavut MLA for Iqaluit, **Hunter Tootoo** is now a federal MP and Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard. Tootoo was a Member of the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut for 14 years and most recently, Chairperson of the Nunavut Planning Commission.

**Michael Miltenberger** was defeated in the NWT election in November after serving as MLA for the Thebacha riding since 1995. Miltenberger was the Minister of Environment

and Natural Resources and a long-standing supporter of caribou conservation. **Wally Shumann**, a first-time MLA for Hay River South, is the new NWT Minister of Environment and Natural Resources.

**Herb Cox** has been the Minister of Environment in SK since spring 2015.

## Caribou in the News

BQCMB member **Alex Ishalook**, along with Kivalliq Wildlife Board's (KWB) **Warren Bernauer** (a recent guest at BQCMB meetings) participated in several media interviews regarding the KWB's position on the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan (DNLUP).

"We have always had a concern with the calving grounds because it's a special place for caribou to go give birth," says Alex Ishalook, chair of the Arviat HTO.

"If mining is allowed in calving grounds, it will destroy the caribou," adds Ishalook, who says that mining has changed caribou range use patterns near communities like Baker Lake, where it has forced them further north. •



Pictured, top to bottom:

Outgoing BQCMB members Albert Thorassie and George Tsannie.

The Hon. Tom Nevakshonoff and BQCMB Chair Earl Evans.

BQCMB guest David Lee (r) greets Alicia Kelly and her son Levi. (Photos: Lynne Bereza)

BQCMB Biologist Leslie Wakelyn (l) visiting with former BQCMB Secretary-Treasurer Gunther Abrahamson and former Caribou News in Brief Editor Marion Souliere in Ottawa last summer. (Photo: Brad Heath)

Development of a Nunavut-wide land use plan has been underway for many years, and the BQCMB has been providing input throughout the process. When finalized, the new Plan will replace the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan and apply to all of Nunavut.

Recommendations for protection of caribou calving and post-calving areas have been featured in the input provided by the BQCMB over the years. Last August, the Board wrote a letter to the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) to follow-up on issues raised at the July 2015 technical meeting. Similar issues were the focus of the BQCMB's verbal input provided in-person to the NPC's January 2016 technical meeting and included:

- uncertainty about what designations and conditions will be applied to caribou calving grounds, post-calving areas and water crossings, and if these habitats will receive protection through the land use plan;
- proposed down-grading protection of portions of calving and post-calving areas that have been identified as having high mineral potential;
- uncertainty about the future status of the Queen Maud Gulf Migratory Bird Sanctuary and plans for protection of caribou calving grounds contained within the current boundaries of the Sanctuary;
- apparent lack of protection for key caribou water crossings on the Thelon and Kazan Heritage Rivers;
- lack of clarity regarding proposed land use designations for potential road corridors, including the Manitoba-Kivalliq road and hydro corridor, which may cross calving areas and other important habitats used by the Qamanirjuaq caribou herd; and
- grandfathering of all existing mineral tenures (including those on calving grounds) to allow for any exploration and development activities up to and including establishment of mines, which was proposed by the federal government in July 2015.

The final Public Hearing on the DNLUP, which was originally scheduled for November, 2014, is scheduled to take place November 21-27, 2016 in Iqaluit. Some of the other key dates remaining in 2016 in the land use planning process are:

- March 4: Participants submit written comments on DNLUP or technical sessions
- May 16 and June 13: Release of revised DNLUP and Options and Recommendations Document in English and Inuktitut, respectively
- September 30: Final deadline for filing written submissions on refined DNLUP, written evidence, or other materials to be relied upon in public hearing

Other important dates and information for participants in the process are on the NPC's website at: [www.nunavut.ca/](http://www.nunavut.ca/) (see "Notice of Written Pre-Hearing Conference").

### **Caribou Workshops to Provide Key Information**

NPC will be holding an in-person caribou workshop March 7-9, 2016 in Iqaluit. This workshop will be focused on discussion of technical issues involved in protection of caribou and habitat from industrial land use activities, to allow the NPC to consider information provided from various perspectives. Representatives from Nunavut's three regional wildlife boards, regional Inuit associations, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, and NWT and NU territorial and federal governments will be participating. The BQCMB hopes to find funding to enable full participation.

This workshop also hopes to build on the results of a November 2015 Caribou Workshop, "Protecting Caribou and Habitat", organized by the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB) and held in Iqaluit. A key topic was disturbance to caribou and habitat, and how to prevent and manage it using scientific and

Continued on page 8

**Sounding the alarm - cont'd from page 1**

### **How vulnerable is the herd?**

The latest survey isn't the only reason the BQCMB is concerned about the status of the Qamanirjuaq caribou herd. A new approach was developed as part of the 2013-2022 BQCMB Management Plan through which the Board determines whether a herd is in trouble by assessing the herd's vulnerability level on a scale of 1 to 5. This assessment uses indicators such as herd size and trend (increasing, stable or decreasing), herd health, abundance of predators, potential for human disturbance, weather events, harvest, and others. Much of this information comes directly from hunters on the caribou range and through community monitoring programs.

The draft results of the initial Qamanirjuaq Vulnerability Assessment, which was completed by board members during the May 2015 BQCMB meeting, were presented and discussed at the November meeting. The Board felt that the assessment was missing key information on some issues of growing concern, like internet sales and increased numbers of predators, such as wolves and bears.

### **Next steps**

After discussing the indicators used and the need for adjustments, the Board asked staff to run the assessment again, giving greater weight to key vulnerability factors, and to present a revised report at its next meeting in May 2016. Once the current vulnerability level for the herd is finalized, the Board will be better able to make recommendations for protecting Qamanirjuaq caribou, which will address the BQCMB's overall goal to make sure caribou herds are healthy and available for the people who share the herd's annual range.

If something isn't done about the Qamanirjuaq Herd soon, Campbell fears the worst. "It's the last of the big herds," he says. "If, as we suspect, the impact is actually much higher than all of our information suggests, the Qamanirjuaq Herd could be in a lot of trouble." •



**Community Profile: Arviat, Nunavut**

# Where Inuit Art comes alive

Arviat, the southernmost mainland community of Nunavut, is a traditional Inuit hamlet located on the western coast of Hudson Bay. Arviat's name comes from the Inuktitut word 'arviq' meaning 'bowhead whale' because of the whale-like shape of the landscape. Over time, it has also been called 'Tikirajualaaq' ('a little long point') and 'Ittaliurvik' ('a place where the people make tents.') When the Hudson Bay Company (HBC) set up a trading post in Arviat in 1921 they called it Eskimo Point.

The Paallirmiut Inuit ('people of the willow') have lived in the Arviat region for over 900 years. Two national historic sites are now dedicated to preserving the traditional camping grounds of the Paallirmiut—the island of Arvia'juaq (12 km northeast of Arviat on the western shore of Hudson Bay) and Qikiqtaarjuk, the mainland point immediately opposite Arvia'juaq.

Today, Arviat is growing. According to the 2011 Census the population was 2,318, an increase of 12.5% from 2006. The people are 92% Inuit and speak Inuktitut and English. The plentiful wildlife, including bears, beluga whales, and of course, caribou, mean hunting and harvesting is more than a hobby for people in Arviat—it is a way of life.

Arviat is located on what is known as 'polar bear alley.' Hundreds of polar bears make the trek north along the coast in late fall each year, searching for sea ice so they can resume their seal hunting. In the summer,

## Did you Know?

Nunavut has more artists, per capita, than any other place in the world!

Source: Nunavut Tourism

once the Bay melts fully, polar bears can often be found along the coast, swimming in the sea or on the many islands offshore.

The caribou make an annual trek here, too. In early May, just west of Arviat thousands of cows and calves move steadily towards their summer calving ground. In September these caribou begin heading back south through the tundra, toward the treeline where they spend the winter.

The Arviat area is also home to many birds—over 250,000 of them migrate here each year! They include sandpipers, arctic terns, jaegers, plovers, ducks, swans, cranes, loons, ptarmigans, gyrfalcons, peregrine falcons, snowy owls and snow geese.

Many of Arviat's supplies come from Churchill, Manitoba, 200 kilometres south by boat, snowmobile or plane. A winter road has been talked about for many years, and recently, the governments of Nunavut and Manitoba agreed to explore the possibility of a winter road extending from northern Manitoba along Nunavut's Hudson Bay coast. (Naturally, while a road would help many people and the economy, there is



Photo courtesy of the Museum of Inuit Art

much debate about a winter vs. all-weather road, along with potential effects a road might have on Qamanirjuaq caribou.)

Arviat is known for more than its abundant wildlife—it is renowned for its arts, crafts, and music, too. Many talented musicians hail from Arviat, including Susan Aglukark, Simon "Johnny Cash of the North" Sigyariaq; and the band Uniaqtuq, to name just a few. The prized sculptures and carvings made by Arviat artists are unique because they are created from an extremely tough local stone called steatite that said to be harder than steel! Highly skilled seamstresses produce sealskin clothing popular in all of Nunavut, and beyond.

Much of Nunavut's amazing art is being held in storage as there is no place to display it, but that will soon change. An agreement between the governments of Nunavut and Manitoba will see Nunavut loan 8,000 pieces of Inuit art to the Winnipeg Art Gallery (WAG). The WAG is in the process of creating an "Inuit Art Centre" to display this collection (along with the thousands of pieces it already has), but in the meantime will tour the art to other locations far and wide. The first stop? The region of Normandy, France in November 2016.

If you are interested in learning more about Arviat and its people missionaries Donald and Winifred Marsh wrote a number of books about the hamlet. The websites [www.visitarviat.ca](http://www.visitarviat.ca), [www.nunavuttourism.com](http://www.nunavuttourism.com), and [www.arviat.ca](http://www.arviat.ca) are a wealth of information, too. •



Photo of Arviat by Timothy K for Panoramio

# Around the Range

## North American Caribou Workshop

The BQCMB has been invited to make a special presentation on “Working Towards Caribou Conservation: Aboriginal Engagement and Knowledge” at the 16th North American Caribou Workshop, May 16-18, 2016 in Thunder Bay, ON. For more information and to register for the workshop, visit: [2016nacw.ca/Home.aspx](http://2016nacw.ca/Home.aspx).

## Status of Other Herds

Population surveys were conducted for the Bathurst and Bluenose East caribou herds in June 2015. These herds migrate between the Northwest Territories (NWT) and Nunavut, and major harvest restrictions have been in place in the NWT for both herds for several years. Increasing harvest of Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou by communities that traditionally harvested the Bathurst and Bluenose East herds may be resulting from recent changes in range use and harvest patterns, which is a concern for the BQCMB.

Information from collaring and surveys show low pregnancy rates and calf survival and an ongoing decline for the Bathurst herd described as “astonishing” by Alicia Kelly, BQCMB member representing the Government of NWT. Joint proposals have been developed by GNWT-ENR and the Tlicho Government for closing Bathurst caribou harvest, enhanced monitoring, and a predator management plan, with a Public Hearing on these proposals to be held by the Wek’eezhii Renewable Resources Board (WRRB) in February 2016.

The Bluenose East herd has declined steadily since 2010. Several co-management groups are working on plans for a total caribou harvest to be divided among Aboriginal groups and NWT and NU communities. Public Hearings on Bluenose East management proposals will be held jointly by the WRRB and the Sahtú Renewable Resources Board in February and March 2016.

## Baffin Island under Caribou Quota

An emergency caribou hunting ban was put in place by the Government of Nunavut (GN) on January 1, 2015, following extensive community consultations in 2011 and 2012

and a Baffin caribou workshop in 2013. The government announced a quota of 250 male caribou for Baffin Island in late August 2015, following the advice of the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board. The Qikiqtaaluk Wildlife Board was responsible for determining how the quota was divided among community hunters and trappers organizations.

According to the GN, the entire Baffin Island caribou population is now estimated at a total of between 3,462 and 6,250 caribou, down from approximately 120,000–330,000 in the 1990s.

## Arctic Caribou Contaminant Monitoring Program

Mary Gamberg from Whitehorse YT has been studying contaminants in caribou in the Canadian Arctic. “We want to know if the caribou are healthy and whether they are healthy for people to eat. We also want to know if the amounts of contaminants in caribou are going up or down,” she reports. Results of contaminant testing of samples taken in 2013-14 from the Qamanirjuaq and Porcupine herds are now in:

- Levels of most elements measured in caribou tissues are not of concern. Mercury and cadmium in kidneys could cause some concern for human health only if more than 32 Porcupine caribou kidneys are eaten each year.
- Caribou meat (muscle) does not accumulate high levels of contaminants and is a healthy food choice.
- Lead levels in Porcupine caribou kidneys are going down, (likely due to less lead in the environment), but do not appear to be declining in Qamanirjuaq caribou. This will be investigated further.

Gamberg also met with HTOs in several Qamanirjuaq range communities in NU (Whale Cove, Chesterfield Inlet, Baker Lake) in fall 2014. Testing of 2014-15 collections included samples (kidney, liver, muscle, teeth, bone marrow and brain) from 21 Qamanirjuaq caribou collected with the help of the Arviat HTO and local hunters.

Gamberg has continued this work in 2015-16. For more information, contact her at [mary.gamberg@gmail.com](mailto:mary.gamberg@gmail.com).

## New Resource Management Board on the Horizon

Wayne Wysocki, technical advisor to the Manitoba Dënesuliné, gave a brief overview to the BQCMB about the Manitoba Dënesuliné/Inuit Land Claims Overlap Arrangements, and a new advisory board tentatively called the “Northern Subarctic Resource Management Board” that is being established. Key areas are land, harvesting rights and resource management. The Board will include government, Inuit and Dene representatives.

While the relationship of this new board with the BQCMB is yet to be clarified, Executive Director Ross Thompson says “we are keenly interested and anxious to cooperate!” The BQCMB hopes to get more information in time for the May, 2016 meeting in Saskatoon, SK.

## Kiggavik Uranium Mine Proposal

The BQCMB’s letter to the federal Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development in support of the Nunavut Impact Review Board’s (NIRB) recommendation concerning the proposed Kiggavik uranium mine and mill to “not approve the project at this time” caught the attention of the Northern News Service. Nunavut News/North reported: “The letters opposing uranium mining company Areva Canada’s request that Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Minister Bernard Valcourt send back the Nunavut Impact Review Board’s no-go decision for the Kiggavik uranium project are piling up. The latest letter, dated Aug. 19, hails from the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board, stating it supports the impact review board decision and ‘the positions presented to you in recent submissions by the Baker Lake Hunters and Trappers Organization, the Kivalliq Wildlife Board and MiningWatch Canada.’”

The Minister has yet to respond to the NIRB’s recommendations or the BQCMB’s letter, which is available on the BQCMB website at [arctic-caribou.com/projects/](http://arctic-caribou.com/projects/). •



Meet the BQCMB Member:

# Alex Ishalook

One of the friendliest faces around the BQCMB table is sure to be Alex Ishalook's. The board member from Arviat has represented Kivalliq Region communities since 2011. It is one of many hats he wears, and as a frequent contributor to round table discussions, it is obvious he enjoys the job very much.

"I like helping out and working with the science," he explains. "I understand a lot of Inuit knowledge and it's easy to work with both sides." This is important, since the BQCMB is a co-management board with members from both government and communities.

As with many Inuit people, his knowledge was passed down from his parents. Although his dad passed away when Ishalook was young, he learned from his mother and later, from his father-in-law. "He was involved with a lot of wildlife stuff," he says about his father-in-law, which explains why his wife Janet shares his knowledge.

Ishalook has lived in Arviat his entire life, and loves the community. Not surprisingly, he says the best thing about Arviat is the wildlife. "There's different wildlife that migrates to Arviat, including beluga whales, caribou...it's an easy hunting place," he says. "You can go on ATV quad and hunt in

almost every direction." He and Janet own a camp by Goose Lake, and enjoy traveling there by ATV and boating in the Ghost River. "That's where a lot of caribou are sighted," he says. "I enjoy the land and living in Arviat...there's lots of geese, polar bears, and it's fun!"

***"It is fun being a BQCMB member. It provides a lot of good information. It's a very good bonding, working along with other stakeholders."***

His life isn't all fun though. Ishalook formerly worked for Community and Government Services in Arviat and said the job was 24-7—no days off. Now, he works as a government maintenance coordinator for a housing corporation. "I work with seven communities," he explains. "We look at applications for housing renovations, retrofits, upgrading houses to code and to energy standards, that area." Best of all, he gets weekends off to pursue his many hobbies.

One of those is running a dog team. "It's just a hobby, but I'm a musher. I have a team of 14 dogs that I race." In fact, in his rookie year—2009—Ishalook came in first. "That was a big surprise for me!" he says.



Photo by Lynne Bereza

"It was a three-day race. Every day we run a team by time and the first day I thought I would be in last place, but I was in third. Then the 2<sup>nd</sup> day I came in 2<sup>nd</sup> place, and my plan wasn't to win, just to finish the race. On the final day my dogs were having fun and they improved and lucky enough, I came in first place."

Shortly after that he began his job with Community and Government Services, working seven days a week, and while he still had his dogs he didn't have time to train them as much. And these days, on his days off, he prefers to go hunting. "I like hunting a lot and go every chance I get—every weekend with my boys." It is during these times he tries to teach them hunting as he was taught, and often he is teaching others, too. "My nephews and cousins, whoever wants to tag along comes and I teach them what I've learned."

His favourite animals to hunt are wolves and of course caribou. "Because it provides food for the table for families." He also points out that his parents grew up in Coral Harbour, along the Hudson Bay coast, and sea mammals such as seals and beluga whales were important. Ishalook still hunts and eats both. He describes a special treat—fermented whale meat. "It's a Christmas and New Year traditional meal, even Easter. We eat a little bit of country food along with fermented whale. It's like blue cheese."

When not working, hunting, or mushing, Ishalook serves on his HTO board and the Co-op board. He's also served as a councillor for the Hamlet and on the district education authority. With only one year left on his BQCMB term, Ishalook plans to continue working hard on the Board and hints that he would be happy to be reappointed.

"It is fun being a BQCMB member," he says. "It provides a lot of good information. It's a very good bonding, working along with other stakeholders. I like being here."•

Left: Alex Ishalook's wife Janet and youngest son Joabie



*Treating caribou right:*

# Ensuring Respect for Caribou

**S**teve Kasstan, a PhD student at Simon Fraser University, made an interesting presentation to the BQCMB during its November meeting. Steve is conducting research in partnership with the Athabasca Denesųliné about their relationship to caribou. The research involves how Denesųliné show respect to caribou, and how it is evident in the ethnographic and archaeological records.

Steve visited Wholdaia Lake, Selwyn Lake and the Cochrane River to document traditional harvests at caribou crossings and to participate in modern winter hunts. His research shows that there is a continuity of harvesting practices at caribou crossings. Steve's interviews with Elders and participation in caribou harvests revealed how Denesųliné show respect to caribou through their harvesting methods, butchery practices, and spiritual connections to caribou.

A highlight of the research is that traditionally, Denesųliné organized their activities throughout the year with a lunar calendar. Individual moons relate to specific harvests, and highlight social and religious events. Steve also documented the step-by-step process of treating harvested caribou, and making dry meat and pemmican. He learned many ways Denesųliné cache caribou, either near the harvesting sites, or at camps.

*“Denesųliné use all parts of the animal, process meat as quickly as possible, and keep campsites clean.”*



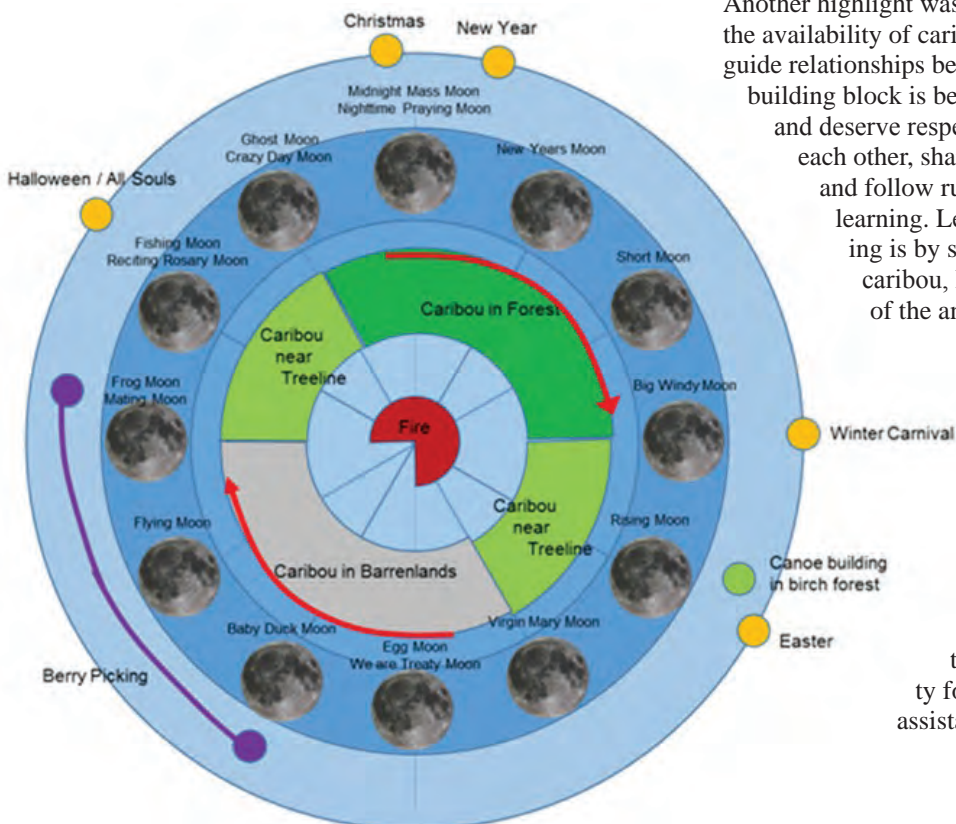
Photo by Ron Robillard

Knowledge Holder Interviews

Another highlight was learning that being respectful ensures the availability of caribou. Respect is shown in rules that guide relationships between people, animals, and the land. A building block is being aware that all living things are equal and deserve respect. Steve learned how Denesųliné help each other, share, respect elders and their knowledge, and follow rules that govern ways of teaching and learning. Learning is by doing and observing, teaching is by sharing wisdom and experiences. For caribou, he learned that Denesųliné use all parts of the animal, process meat as quickly as possible, and keep campsites clean. By

following these and many other rules, Denesųliné maintain good relations with each other, caribou and the land.

Steve thanks the Athabasca Denesųliné Né Né Land Corporation, Fond du Lac Denesųliné First Nation, Black Lake Denesųliné First Nation, Hatchet Lake Denesųliné First Nation, the BQCMB, and Simon Fraser University for their combined insights, patience, and assistance. Marsi Cho.♦





*Implementing the new*

# Management Plan



## Heard around the BQCMB Table

The 2013-2022 BQCMB Management Plan identifies many goals and objectives to further its work. At the May 2015 meeting, the Board selected the top three priority goals and objectives that it would start to take action on as soon as possible. The Board decided to focus on a long-term communications plan, a long-term monitoring plan, and investigating options for community-based harvest data collection. At the November 2015 meeting the Board agreed to form several ad hoc committees to carry on with these actions, including:

- Technical Monitoring - to identify recommendations for additional monitoring of caribou, habitat, and factors that affect caribou and their environment.
- Harvest Monitoring - to develop recommendations and plan for community-based harvest data collection.
- Communications - to prepare a communications and education plan.
- Fund-raising - to identify potential funding sources and coordinate funding proposals.
- Vulnerability Assessment - to work on a standardized method for weighting vulnerability assessment indicators.

Board members, staff and other cooperators with special skills and experience were asked to volunteer for various committees.

As the BQCMB is a co-management board, it is important to have both government and community members on all committees. It is expected the committees will be up and running soon and updates will be heard during the May, 2016 BQCMB meeting in Saskatoon, SK. •

### **Nunavut Land Ups Plan - cont'd from page 3**

traditional knowledge. Successes and effectiveness of options were examined and 11 main points of agreement came out of the workshop. A report is expected soon, and more information is available at [www.nwmb.com/](http://www.nwmb.com/).

### **Call for a Moratorium**

In December, the Board wrote a letter to the Honourable Carolyn Bennett, federal Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs, and Honourable Hunter Tootoo, MP for Nunavut, both newly elected during the 2015 federal election. The letter reinforced the Board's concern about the lack of protection currently in place for calving and post-calving areas, uncertainty about protection that may be applied through the land use plan and how long that may take to come into effect, and the disregard of federal Caribou Protection Measures in the DNLUP. The Board called for an immediate moratorium on the issuance of any new mineral tenures, mineral exploration permits and licenses, and development approvals on calving grounds and post-calving areas in Nunavut. In November the Kivalliq Wildlife Board (KWB) had made a similar call for an immediate moratorium, for calving areas only, by sending a letter to four federal ministers, and World Wildlife Fund Canada submitted a letter supporting the KWB request in December.

The BQCMB submissions are posted on our website at [arctic-caribou.com/projects/](http://arctic-caribou.com/projects/). •

"This is the oldest co-management board like this and it does a really good job bringing people together."

*Alicia Kelly, Government of NWT*

"One of the most important things in harvest counts is to be honest. When you talk to hunters, explain that our parents left enough caribou for us. Ask what they are doing for coming generations?"

*Albert Thorassie, Sayisi Dene First Nation, Tadoule Lake, MB*

"Caribou are in a 'silent war' so we need to get the message out to people—take only what you need, and keep the funding coming."

*Dennis Larocque, Camsell Portage, SK*

"It's not just our livelihood, it's our tradition—my tradition is my religion."

*Ron Robillard, Athabasca Dènesuliné Né Né Land Corporation, Prince Albert*

"We have to ramp up monitoring so we can make good management decisions, but this takes hundreds of thousands of dollars each year."

*Mitch Campbell, Government of Nunavut*

"We need a commitment up front from government parties so we can count on those dollars to do our work."

*Earl Evans, Northwest Territory Métis Nation, Fort Smith, NWT*

"Loud and clear—I've got the message. Funding is the issue."

*The Honourable Tom Nevaakshonoff, Manitoba Minister of Conservation and Water Stewardship*

## Publisher's Box

Caribou News in Brief is published by the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board. ISSN 1489-3436.

Opinions expressed are those of the editor and contributors. Back issues available at [www.arctic-caribou.com](http://www.arctic-caribou.com).

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